

REMARKS

This amendment is filed in response to the Office Action dated January 8, 2007. In that Action, the Examiner made the previous restriction requirement final, and objected to the length of the abstract. Claims 1, 3 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 1-3 and 22 were further rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by admitted prior art. Claims 4 and 8-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over admitted prior art in view of Houston. Claims 5-7 and 10 were indicated as being allowable if properly rewritten.

Applicants have amended the specification and claims to place this case in condition for allowance in accordance with the Office Action. The abstract has been amended to reduce the word count, and Claim 10 has been incorporated into Claim 1 along with the intervening Claims 4 and 8. Since Claim 10 was indicated as being allowable, amended Claim 1 and all claims depending therefrom are likewise allowable. Claims 4, 8 and 10 have accordingly been deleted, and the dependencies of Claims 5, 6 and 9 have been amended for consistency. Claims 11-21 have been deleted pursuant to the previous restriction requirement, and Claim 22 has also been deleted.

Applicants have added two new Claims 23 and 24 which correspond respectively to Claims 5 and 6 (with intervening Claim 4). Since those claims were indicated as being allowable, Claims 23 and 24 are likewise allowable. Since the number of independent claims currently presented is only three, and the total number of claims currently presented is less than 20, no fee is due for the presentation of these new claims; however, if any additional fees should be required for the presentation of these claims please charge such fees to deposit account number 09-0447.

Applicants have made a diligent effort to advance the prosecution of this application by amending claims and deleting others in accordance with the Office Action. In view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, the application is believed to be in condition for

allowance and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

/Jack V. Musgrove/

Jack V. Musgrove
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 31,986
Telephone: 512-689-6116